

# The Punta Gorda Herald

PUNTA GORDA — In Tropical Southwest Florida, a Seaport on the Famous Charlotte Harbor — a Town that is Known for its Natural Attractions and the Hospitality of a Cosmopolitan Citizenship

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER SANITARY ENGINEERING

Given Consideration by the State Board of Health

### ADDS TO ITS EQUIPMENT

Department Under the Management of an Experienced Scientific Man — Advisory Service Free to Citizens of Florida

When the erection of a great bridge spanning deep waters or building of a sky scraper for the housing of millions of dollars of business interests is contemplated, the first thing is to prepare plans to the minutest details. The character of the foundations, the strength of the materials and numberless other minutiae are considered, and the work of the engineer is the first and most important of all.

It hasn't occurred to business men, until within very recent years, that the services of the engineer are quite as necessary in the even more important work of building up and conserving health — the physical welfare, the permanent well-being of the community which is the foundation of all its chances for prosperity.

Taking the lead and establishing precedents in its work for the lasting betterment of the public health in Florida, the State Board of Health has quite recently added to its equipment a Department of Sanitary Engineering. Hardly three months ago this work was inaugurated, under the management of an experienced scientific man who has made special study for years of the problems that affect the purity of the water supply and the disposal of sewage in Florida communities, whether they be cities or rural districts.

Usually the body of citizens who award contracts for the construction of municipal waterworks and sewers know as much about the elements of the problems, about the dangers of improper construction and maintenance as they know about their abiding place in the hereafter. The call for advice from engineers who are quite competent to estimate the flow of water from given sources, the cost of laying pipe and other generalities, but they don't know, or are indifferent as to whether that water is fit to drink or whether it may be contaminated now or hereafter from known or suspected sources.

Too often, unscrupulous engineers and contractors will persuade gullible municipal authorities into unwise investments of public money in public improvements. Taking advantage of incompetent inspection of construction and materials, a city may be robbed of large sums by imperfect and unscientific workmanship and low grade materials.

It is to remedy such possibilities in Florida cities and sections, that this new department has been created: it is for the benefit of cities and towns and individuals. Like a large share of the work of the State Board of Health, the functions of the department are advisory and free to the citizen of Florida.

The water supply of the community is like the blood of the individual if it isn't pure and wholesome it becomes a poison. The problem in each city and town is a subject for special study for it is not exactly alike in any two places. The natural source of water supply, whether that water is wholesome chemically and pure bacteriologically, whether and how it may be contaminated and how it may be kept perpetually uncontaminated, are some of the elements to be settled by scientific investigation before construction may be begun wisely or safely.

The artesian water supply thru the state is much the same as to chemical content. Yet although it comes from varying depths in different sections, there is the possibility in numerous places that it may be polluted by drainage from inhabited territory, to insure clean water and keep it clean is the province of the sanitary expert. The construction and location of sewers and drains and the

disposal of garbage and refuse are subjects that call for most serious study by scientific engineers, and through this department the State Board of Health offers expert advice on these matters affecting public health.

Already the engineer in charge is having made chemical examinations of water supplies. With the establishment of its own laboratory the department will soon be prepared to make bacteriological examinations also.

While the services of this department are advisory, it has already surveyed without being called especially into consultation, the water supply and drainage of several cities and reports are being prepared on these investigations. The department has and will exercise the function of independent sleuthing, and some Florida communities may be surprised and shocked when they are informed that they are drinking and bathing in water that far below the surface is mixed in the same cesspool with their sewage, or that of some neighboring town, miles away. — State Board of Health.

### Program for Citrus Seminar About Completed

The Seventh Annual Citrus Seminar which will be held at the University of Florida, October 17 to 20, promises to be the largest meeting that has been held. The program is about completed and it is more comprehensive and contains a greater number of authorities and exhibits than that of any previous meeting. Fertilizers, standardizations of varieties and nursery problems will be discussed the first day. An attempt is being made to obtain a noted speaker to address the meeting on standardization that day.

The following morning, Wednesday, has been given over to the discussion of marketing of citrus fruits. Senator Duncan U. Fletcher will address the growers that morning on how citrus growers can make use of the Federal Farm Loan Act. Citrus canker and eradication work will receive considerable attention during the afternoon and evening. Every grower should attend the session Wednesday since it will be one of great importance to the industry.

Thursday and Friday will be devoted to diseases and pests and methods of control, especially by spraying. M. B. Waite of the Bureau of Plant Industry will discuss spraying machinery and equipment Thursday afternoon. During his lecture and following it demonstrations will be made.

J. R. Watson, entomologist to the Experiment Station, will discuss, Thursday, a new whitefly parasite, which he has successfully imported.

### Talking of Town Politics

The near-approach of the town election has set some citizens talking about the offices soon to become vacant. The officials to be chosen are a mayor, three councilmen, marshal, treasurer, clerk and assessor.

Thus far the street talk favors the reelection of Ed. Smith for mayor, J. H. Lipscomb for marshal, L. E. Robinson for clerk and E. W. Rountree for treasurer.

The terms of Aldermen Silcox, Trabue and Fries are expiring. Waltmire and Whitten hold over. As successors to the three men who retire, the following are spoken of: R. C. Blount, T. C. Crosland, Harry Botts and R. E. Doty.

The columns of The Herald are open for announcements at \$2.50 each.

The President's simple porch campaign and Mr. Hughes elaborate itineraries throughout the country appear to form a combination that will prove the undoing of the Republicans.

Austrian arch-dukes are being rapidly separated from their high commands in the army, it having been discovered that the titles of those eminent ones fail to overawe the enemy.

## SUPREME COURT DECISION WAS END OF THE CONTEST

For Democratic Nomination as Governor of Florida

### KNOTT IS PEOPLE'S NOMINEE

Is Endorsed by the State Executive Committee in Resolutions Adopted at the Late Meeting Held in Jacksonville

The long, bitter contest to decide who was nominated for governor in the June primary was finally decided on Saturday last in favor of Wm. V. Knott. In fact, it was decided by the Democratic voters on June 6th; but owing to many errors in counting and tabulating the votes in the various counties, it took a long, acrimonious and expensive contest to determine definitely who had received a majority of both first and second choice votes.

The final hearing in the supreme court last Saturday resulted in that tribunal refusing to order the state canvassing board to make a third canvass that would include the sixty-nine votes cast for Mr. Catts in precinct No. 3 of Alachua county and the corrected returns from Hillsborough and other counties, these returns being in favor of Mr. Knott. Thus the request of the attorneys for each contestant was denied; otherwise, if both had been granted, Mr. Knott would have been shown to be the nominee by thirty-six to forty-eight majority. As it was and is, the second re-canvass by the state one majority and the certificate board which gave Mr. Knott twenty-two of nomination, holds good, and he is the de jure as well as the de facto nominee of the Democratic party, for governor of Florida.

At the same time that the supreme court was delivering its final decision, the Democratic state executive committee in session at Jacksonville, by a vote of 31 to 10, adopted the following resolutions:

"Whereas, the rule and provisions of the primary election law particularly with respect to the counting of the second choice votes were not generally understood by the inspectors of elections in the recent primary in which candidates of the Democratic party were nominated; and

"Whereas, many errors were unintentionally made by the inspectors in several of the counties of this State in tabulating and tallying such votes; and

"Whereas, it has been judicially determined by the courts of this State, after full and impartial investigation of the contest for the Democratic nomination for governor that the Honorable W. V. Knott is justly entitled to such nomination; and

"Whereas, the high character and ability and integrity of the judges of the Supreme Court and the other courts of the State of Florida is such as to commend the confidence and respect of every fair minded citizen of this state,

"Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, by the Democratic Executive Committee of the State of Florida, that the action of the Honorable W. V. Knott in instituting and carrying to a conclusion the recount contest in the courts for the purpose of judicially determining the true Democratic nominee for governor, was necessary in order to properly protect and secure the rights of the individual Democratic voters of Florida. Be it further

"Resolved, that the State Democratic Executive Committee heartily endorses all of the Democratic nominees, national, State and county, and does hereby pledge to loyally support the said nominees in the ensuing election.

"Be it further resolved, that all Democrats in the State of Florida should give their active aid and support towards the election of all said Democratic nominees and thereby continue the supremacy of the Democratic party. Be it further

"Resolved, that all nominees of the Democratic party in the recent primary election are particularly called upon to lend their aid and

## NO LULL IN THE FIGHTING IN THE EASTERN SECTORS

Teutons Slowly Overcoming Rumanians in Transylvania

### SERBIANS GAINING GROUND

Force Bulgars Out of Shochivir—Artillery Duel on Somme With Infantry Attacks Taking Place But No Gains Reported

Newport, R. I. — Eyewitness stories of the torpedoing of passenger and freight steamers by German submarines off Nantucket were told here Monday.

According to a report brought by officers of a flotilla of United States destroyers, which picked up passengers and crews of several of the vessels destroyed, nine merchant ships were sunk.

One of the submarines is supposed to have been the U-53, which visited this harbor Saturday and another was declared to be the U-61.

Six vessels are known to have been sunk and the report that the total was nine was based on a statement of the captain of the Nantucket Shoals lightship. The captain said three submarines were engaged. The list of submarine victims included four British, one Norwegian and one Dutch vessel. The identity of the other three reported to have been lost, had not been learned early today.

The crews of all the vessels with the exception of one were brought here together with the eighty-passengers, and were cared for by the officers of the Narragansett Bay Naval Station and prominent members of the Newport summer colony.

It was believed that no lives had been lost and although the men of one freighter were reported adrift in open boats the fact that the weather was mild and the sea calm, made it seem probable that they would be rescued.

Of the passengers, thirty were American tourists returning from Newfoundland and the Canadian maritime provinces.

Lieutenant Commander Miller of the Ericsson, which picked up some of the boats, said that no attack was made on the vessels until all on board had left.

active support and assist in the candidacy of Woodrow Wilson for president, W. V. Knott for governor and R. F. Taylor for justice of the Supreme Court, and Hon. Frank Clark for Congress, for the reason that the Democratic candidates last above named are being subjected to violent attacks by independents, Republicans, Socialists and other enemies of the Democratic party, and it is the sense of this committee, speaking for the organized Democracy for the State of Florida, that all such nominees should properly respond to all requests hereafter made upon them by the Campaign Committee, to give active aid and support in the present campaign."

It may safely be claimed that, if there had been a correct recount of the vote of the entire state, it would have shown Mr. Knott to be several hundred votes in the lead. It should be remembered in his favor that, when evidence presented caused him to doubt the integrity of the recount in Madison county, he declined to receive a large number of votes to which that recount showed him to be entitled.

It now behooves every real Democrat to fall in line and do all that he can to carry out the will of a majority of the people by electing Mr. Knott governor of Florida.

Meantime, Mr. Catts is running as an independent and a prohibitionist, thus having bolted the Democratic party.

### Newspapers to Advance Rates

A special meeting of the State Press Association was held in Jacksonville last Saturday and Friday to consider the problem of meeting the increased cost of publication caused by the great advance in the price of print paper and all other printing material. After considerable discussion, it

was decidedly that it was absolutely necessary for all standard weekly papers (such as The Herald—8 pages, 6 columns) to advance their subscription rates to \$2.00 a year, all others of smaller size to \$1.50 a year the increased rate to go into effect Jan. 1st, 1917.

The minimum price of advertising space in all weeklies, regardless of size or circulation was fixed at 20c. per single-column inch, no reduction to be made in favor of plate or stereotyped matter.

No rates were prescribed for dailies, which was a serious oversight, and nothing was said or done about the establishment of a paper mill in Jacksonville. The inevitable banquet and the meeting on Saturday of the Democratic state committee appears to have caused the association to neglect these matters, but the South Florida Association, which is a real business concern can be depended on to give them some attention at the semi-annual meeting in Lakeland in January.

The DeSoto County Association will take action at an early date.

### Burning Trash From Fields Makes Poor Land

The easiest way to get rid of trash and crop remains is by fire. This is also the easiest means of destroying the fertility of the land. Florida soils need the organic matter which this rubbish will supply. In most cases this material will not increase the fertility when it is returned to the soil on which it grew. It will merely tend to maintain that fertility. If it is burned, most of the plant food will be lost and the farmer will have nothing but poor land to show for the crop which produced the material.

S. S. Walker, associate chemist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, cites another important office of the organic matter. This material furnishes food upon which the beneficial organisms live. They not only break down the organic matter in their feeding processes, but they aid materially in liberating other plant foods from the mineral constituents of the soil. Organic matter is necessary to these reducing processes.

### Democrat Gilchrist

Editor The Punta Gorda Herald:—Much has been said and written of the Catts-Knott controversy for the Democratic nomination for governor of Florida. The laws of Florida provide for the settlement of elections and for the settlement of nominations. In the case of elections, every one must, of necessity abide the result. In the settlement of nominations, every one should, of necessity, abide the result. Whether Catts or Knott is the nominee, I will, not of necessity, but gladly support the nominee.

It seems to me that all Democrats, who do not do so gladly, must, of necessity, abide the result by supporting the nominee. I am here temporarily on business. I will sure vote in the election voting for all nominees of the Democratic party.

Very truly,  
Albert W. Gilchrist,  
Waycross, Ga., Oct. 5th, 1916.

### Confederate Veterans' Re-Union

Tampa, Oct. 9.—Tampans are making elaborate preparations for the entertainment of Confederate veterans of Florida, who will hold their annual re-union in the city October 17 to 19, inclusive, and a large attendance of veterans and visitors generally is expected. The railroad rate offered for the round trip from all sections of the state is one fare plus 25 cents, with a liberal time limit.

This will be one of the last reunions held by the veterans, many of whom have grown too old to attend, by reason of which Tampa invites all lovers of the "old cause" to join in paying them tribute. Union veterans also will participate in the re-union, a feature of which will be a "Blue and Gray" barbecue.

## SURVIVORS OF ILL-FATED SHIPS AT NEWPORT, R. I.

Tell About the Attacks by the German Submarines

### DUE WARNING WAS GIVEN

Ample Time Was Allowed For All Who Were Aboard to Leave the Vessels Before They Were Sent Down

London, Eng.—On the battlefronts in Europe, Transylvania and Macedonia continue for the moment the centers of the greatest interest. According to Berlin, the Rumanians in Transylvania, are retreating along the whole line. The Teutonic Allies have recaptured the town of Tereburg, fifteen miles southeast of Kronstadt, and within seven miles of the Rumanian border. In the Danube, north of Sistova, the Germans have occupied an island, taking six guns and making prisoners of the Rumanian troops there.

Serbs in considerable force have crossed the Cerna River in Serbia and captured the town of Skochivir, southeast of Mostar, and also have occupied positions along the north bank of the river.

Considerable hard fighting has again taken place in the region west of Lutsk and farther south in Galicia, but the results are somewhat beclouded by reason of the contradictory reports of the Petrograd and Berlin war office statements. Petrograd says the Russians at some points in the Volhynia succeeded in entering Austro-German positions east of Vladimir-Volynski, but Berlin reports that these attacks failed with sanguinary losses to the Russians. Near Brezany, southeast of Lemberg, in Galicia, both Petrograd and Berlin record repulse of attacks. In the Carpathians the Germans have made an advance at Babaludowa.

Violent reciprocal bombardments are in progress in the Somme front. Infantry attacks also have taken place, but no important gains for either side have been chronicled.

Carrying 2,000 Serbian and French soldiers, the auxiliary cruiser Gallia has been sunk in the Mediterranean with a loss of 638 men.

### As Viewed from Havana

The Daily News a live newspaper published in Havana, Cuba, gives its readers the following report of the gubernatorial contest:

"They are having a hard time to decide on the gubernatorial nominee over in Florida. A minister of the gospel who had not lived in the state very long had announced his candidacy and ran on an anti-Catholic ticket. He went about through the country and preached the terrors of the Catholic religion and made many believe that the Pope was coming right here to Florida and establish the vatican there and take control of the state as he controlled Italy and some of the other European countries. He received an apparent plurality, but through the technicalities of the primary law he has been declared defeated by the state supreme court. The curious part of it is, his opponent is not a Catholic, there has been no effort on the part of the church to foist a candidate on the people or to control state politics."

Fishermen coming in to this port last Friday, report that they saw millions of dead pig-fish floating in from the Gulf all the way from Carlos Bay to Cape Haze. A few dead grouper were observed, but no mullet or other kind of fish. The fishermen are at a loss to account for the phenomenon, but some of them have an idea that the fish were killed by the sudden out-burst of a submarine volcano.

"Southern domination in politics" is the cry of the republicans against Woodrow Wilson and his party. He is hard up for an issue.

There is a good deal of hot air in Zeppelin warfare.